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Weekly Crop & Weather Roundup

Week Ending June 27, 2004

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This report can be found on the Internet at www.nass.usda.gov/pa

Good week for Field Work: There were 5 days suitable for field work. Soil moisture was rated 3 percent short, 60 percent adequate and 37 percent surplus. Principal farm activities included cutting 2nd hay crop, spreading fertilizer, spreading manure, applying herbicides and pesticides, harvesting barley, repairing fences and machinery, and baling straw.

Crops: Corn silking was 6 percent complete, which was slightly ahead of last year and the five year average. Corn was at an average height of 41 inches statewide, and was rated 1 percent very poor, 3 percent poor, 17 percent fair, 33 percent good, and 46 percent excellent. Winter wheat progress reached 91 percent yellow, compared to 64 percent last year and 79 percent for the 5-year average. Winter Wheat ripe was 15 percent, compared to 1 percent in 2003, and the five year average of 15 percent. The winter wheat crop was rated as 2 percent very poor, 18 percent poor, 37 percent fair, 35 percent good and 8 percent excellent. Barley was 89 percent ripe, compared to 47 percent ripe last year, and the five year average of 75 percent. Barley was 62 percent harvested, while last year barley was 17 percent harvested, and the five year average is 48 percent. Oats were 70 percent headed, compared with 55 percent in 2003, and 73 percent for the five year average. Oat condition was 7 percent very poor, 10 percent poor, 27 percent fair, 48 percent good and 8 percent excellent. Soybeans were 96 percent planted, compared to 73 percent in 2003 and 91 percent for the 5-year average. Soybeans emerged were 89 percent, which was ahead of last year at 57 percent, but ahead of the 5-year average of 83 percent. Soybean condition was rated 4 percent poor, 16 percent fair, 63 percent good, and 17 percent excellent. Tobacco transplanted was 93 percent complete, compared to 74 percent last year, and 93 percent for the five year average. Alfalfa first cutting was 83 percent complete, compared to 71 percent last year and 86 percent for a 5-year average. Alfalfa second cutting was 18 percent complete, compared to 5 percent last year, and 25 percent for the five year average. Alfalfa stand was rated as 3 percent very poor, 7 percent poor, 21 percent fair, 51 percent good and 18 percent

excellent. Cutting of the timothy clover hay was 64 percent complete, compared with 41 percent last year and 64 percent for the 5-year average. The timothy clover stand was rated 1 percent very poor, 5 percent poor, 30 percent fair, 54 percent good and 10 percent was excellent. The quality of the hay made was 17 percent very poor, 12 percent poor, 32 percent fair, 29 percent good, and 10 percent excellent.

Peach condition was rated as 1 percent poor, 8 percent fair, 70 percent good, and 21 percent excellent. Apple condition was rated as 9 percent poor, 26 percent fair, and 65 percent good.

Livestock: During the last week, the pasture condition in Pennsylvania was rated at 1 percent very poor, 4 percent poor, 21 percent fair, 54 percent good and 20 percent excellent.

U.S. As of June 20, 2004: Four percent of the crop had reached the silking stage, 2 percentage points ahead of last year and 1 point ahead of the 5-year average. Meanwhile, in North Carolina, silking was 52 percent complete, 30 points ahead of normal. Silking had not begun across the northern Corn Belt and northern Great Plains but was ahead of the normal pace elsewhere. Soybean growers had planted 95 percent of their acreage, compared with 93 percent last year and 94 percent for the 5-year average. Emergence, at 90 percent, was 4 points ahead of last year and 1 point ahead of normal. Winter Wheat: Producers had harvested 37 percent of their acreage, 17 points ahead of last year and 11 points ahead of normal. Twelve percent of the barley crop had reached the heading stage, compared with 17 percent last year and 15 percent for the 5-year average. Heading progressed slowly in most States but showed a 16-point gain in Idaho. All States were behind the normal heading pace despite rapid progress through both planting and emergence earlier in the season, as cool weather limited growth and development. Oat heading advanced to 38 percent complete, 3 points ahead of last year and 4 points ahead of normal.

Weather Data For Week Ending June 27, 2004

Station	Last Week Weather Summary						April 1 - June 27, 2004					GDD Base 40F Total
	Temperature				Precipitation		Precipitation			GDD Base 50F		
	High	Low	Average	DFN	Total	Days	Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN	
Northwest												
Erie	79	46	63	-7	0.25	5	11.29	0.88	48	923	197	1,627
Franklin	79	42	61	-8	0.45	3	15.25	3.67	55	901	201	1,625
Meadville	80	47	62	-5	0.37	4	12.40	1.20	51	846	219	1,540
Mercer	82	38	60	-8	0.74	2	13.39	2.03	41	717	16	1,398
Springboro	84	43	62	-7	0.39	4	15.70	5.69	55	845	104	1,528
Warren	79	45	61	-7	0.43	4	17.85	5.86	56	835	161	1,543
North Central												
Bradford Region	76	37	58	-6	0.44	5	12.99	0.91	60	711	248	1,384
Emporium	82	44	64	-1	0.22	2	12.21	0.13	49	906	378	1,628
Kane	73	35	54	-10	0.28	4	13.51	1.33	45	419	-37	1,033
Laporte	77	46	61	-7	1.16	2	14.68	3.21	55	759	61	1,447
Lock Haven	84	45	64	-5	0.85	3	15.52	4.50	43	1,022	262	1,809
Port Allegany	79	42	60	-5	0.20	3	12.51	0.80	48	749	207	1,423
Renovo	84	45	65	-4	0.46	3	11.81	0.79	44	1,002	242	1,759
Ridgway	78	40	60	-6	0.32	3	16.00	3.92	43	736	208	1,415
Stevenson Dam	82	44	64	-1	0.17	3	12.55	0.47	50	947	419	1,617
Towanda	85	45	64	-4	0.51	2	10.39	0.83	45	929	217	1,660
Wellsboro	78	41	61	-3	0.13	1	13.28	3.84	46	741	256	1,424
Williamsport	83	47	67	-3	0.85	3	12.82	1.79	55	1,101	234	1,898
Northeast												
Hawley	80	42	62	-5	0.45	2	11.47	0.62	38	759	190	1,449
Wilkes-Barre/Sc	82	46	66	-4	0.86	3	11.95	1.70	42	1,000	193	1,766
Susquehanna	84	45	64	-2	0.60	2	12.49	1.08	42	928	388	1,671
West Central												
Butler	81	41	62	-7	0.69	4	15.45	4.20	52	922	181	1,646
New Castle	83	44	63	-6	0.46	2	13.66	3.43	43	1,010	268	1,745
Slippery Rock	82	42	63	-4	0.37	2	15.68	4.73	54	968	303	1,713
Central												
Altoona/Blair	81	47	66	-4	0.15	2	12.78	2.38	44	1,024	200	1,765
DuBois	77	44	62	-6	0.41	3	16.18	4.50	59	873	187	1,585
Lewistown	85	48	68	-3	0.22	2	13.57	2.57	43	1,102	189	1,889
Middletown	85	54	72	-2	0.10	2	12.28	1.27	37	1,295	253	2,119
Prince Gallitzi	82	41	63	-4	0.65	2	16.48	3.56	44	895	275	1,606
Selinsgrove	85	48	67	-4	0.43	2	12.87	1.69	45	1,055	223	1,830
State College	82	50	67	-3	0.85	2	11.39	1.18	39	1,054	248	1,810
East Central												
Allentown-Bethel	84	48	69	-4	1.35	2	10.70	-0.40	40	1,133	196	1,939
Lehigh	81	47	65	-6	0.62	3	13.73	2.60	45	998	105	1,776
Matamoras	83	43	64	-6	0.52	3	9.77	-1.98	38	835	43	1,567
Tobyhanna	78	45	64	0	1.07	4	16.63	4.25	53	830	350	1,541
Southwest												
Pittsburgh/Alle	80	49	66	-4	0.46	3	13.75	2.93	47	1,160	335	1,934
Derry	81	45	64	-5	0.66	4	17.94	7.15	54	1,010	255	1,762
Myersdale	80	40	61	-7	0.19	2	14.19	2.37	41	815	78	1,515
Mount Pleasant	80	45	64	-3	0.50	3	15.12	2.59	36	1,027	374	1,770
Pittsburgh Intl	82	50	66	-5	0.34	2	13.92	3.84	44	1,201	325	1,973
Rector	83	42	64	-3	0.34	2	17.42	4.89	55	1,040	387	1,795
Waynesburg	82	44	64	-5	0.33	3	14.88	4.01	48	1,049	255	1,798
South Central												
Biglerville	85	50	69	-4	0.41	2	18.55	8.25	43	1,165	132	1,959
Everett	81	42	62	-8	0.26	2	11.93	2.00	40	843	47	1,549
Hanover	84	50	70	-4	0.62	2	16.94	6.64	37	1,224	191	2,022
Shippensburg	87	49	70	-3	0.29	2	14.68	4.46	38	1,244	204	2,039
South Mountain	79	46	65	-5	0.98	2	16.90	6.50	34	981	164	1,718
York	84	49	70	-3	0.13	1	13.57	2.37	37	1,196	157	2,001
Southeast												
Green Lane	92	50	71	1	0.14	2	11.79	1.09	41	1,274	394	2,103
Hamburg	85	48	68	-2	0.47	3	10.84	-2.16	46	1,133	353	1,938
Hopewell	84	50	69	-5	0.58	2	14.17	3.02	51	1,159	69	1,966
Lancaster	83	52	70	-3	0.11	2	14.62	3.65	43	1,205	265	2,020
Neshaminy Falls	89	52	71	-1	0.28	2	12.04	-0.04	39	1,246	310	2,067
New Holland	83	53	70	-2	0.27	2	13.14	2.17	42	1,191	251	1,992
Philadelphia	86	57	73	-1	0.02	2	14.01	3.28	40	1,399	286	2,235
Philadelphia NE	86	52	72	-3	0.42	3	11.35	0.62	40	1,345	232	2,178
Reading	85	51	71	-2	2.12	2	13.02	0.93	41	1,225	314	2,044
Valley Forge Na	88	47	69	-5	0.47	2	11.31	0.16	38	1,195	105	2,004
Willow Grove	84	51	71	-2	0.15	1	8.27	-3.81	40	1,261	325	2,089

DFN = Departure from normal (using 1961-90 normals period).

Precipitation (rainfall or melted snow or ice) and pan evaporation in inches.

Precipitation days = days with precipitation of .01 inch or more.

Air temperatures in degrees fahrenheit.

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Internet Reporters' Comments, By County:

Reporters are from Extension Service (Ext), Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), Farm Service Agency (FSA), Conservation District (CD), farmers, commodity specialists, or other knowledgeable individuals.

Berks County, Theresa Tracey (FSA) - Drier week for field work. Corn crop looks very good with average height about 36 inches.

Centre County, Dick Decker - Good week for hay making; 1" in my rain gauge for the week. Crops are looking good.

Crawford County, Ron McCorkle (NRCS) - There was a lot of activity this week with herbicide and fertilizer applications to field crops. Corn looks like it could use a little help due to cold and wet weather. It has been a challenge trying to miss the rains to make dry hay.

Forest County, Thomas Tanner (FSA) - Farmers made some hay this week, but the rain continues to dampen the process. Most of the hay is gone to seed and is of poor quality. Many acres of hay have been harvested for haylage which would normally be harvested as dry hay. The corn continues to grow and for the most part is ahead of last year growth for this time of year. Wheat and barley crops appear to be in average condition. Cabbage, sweet corn and potato crops appear to be of good quality. Other vegetables are having a tough time do to the rain.

Fulton County, Russ McLucas - Barley is off, test weights were not to good.

Juniata County, Dave Stetler - Finally, a whole week that was fit to be doing something in the fields.

Mercer/Lawrence Counties, D Earl Smith (FSA) - Lots of hay being made towards the last of the week. Spraying of crop fields lagging behind, weeds becoming a problem.

Potter/McKean/Cameron Counties, David Stratton (FSA) - There was much progress with hay making this week. Corn and oats are growing very well with the warm wet weather.

Snyder County, William C. Sheaffer - Localized heavy rains of over two inches on Monday, along with showers Friday night; otherwise, not a bad week. The second growth of alfalfa is progressing nicely and should make for some good hay if we get the right kind of weather. The main activities this past week were haymaking, combining barley, planting soybeans, spraying herbicides and baling straw.

Tioga County, Pamela Barnes - Another week of sunshine for getting field work done. Good hay weather but the ground is drying out quickly in some areas. Parts of the county have had rain showers. We are hoping for a good rain shower to give crops a drink and get hay to start growing again. First cutting is almost done and some early second cutting has been mowed. Hay is drying quickly for baling. Pastures could use some rain for cattle to continue to get ample amounts of grass.

Tioga County, Linda Carmichael - This week brought temperatures in the high 70's with much lower humidity. Foggy mornings, sunny days with cool nights made for a nice week for field work. Only a couple light scattered showers all week.

Westmoreland County, John Lohr (FSA) - Only one day with rainfall made for the first good week of harvesting this season. Finally some dry hay was baled. With the drier conditions, herbicides were being applied to cleanup weeds in some of the later-planted corn and soybeans. Much of the timely-planted corn is already waist high or better and looks great.

York County, Wayne Kurtz (FSA) - With a return of normal weather conditions, it was full throttle for county farmers this week. Barley and hay harvest continued unabated with above average yields yet below average quality. Early planted corn is starting to tassel and the entire crop looks in excellent shape as of now. Wheat harvest began with early reports showing 59 lbs. test weight, which is a pleasant surprise. Double cropped soybean acreage should be increased this year as all crops are maturing early due to warm temp in the spring.

PA Crop Progress for Week Ending June 27, 2004

Crop	Current Week	Last Year	5-Year Average
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Corn, silk	6	0	0
Corn average height, inches	41	13	21
Barley, ripe	89	47	75
Barley, harvested	62	17	48
Wheat, turning yellow	91	64	79
Wheat, ripe	15	1	15
Oats, heading or headed	70	55	73
Soybeans, planted	96	73	91
Soybeans, emerged	89	57	83
Tobacco, transplanted	93	74	93
Alfalfa, 1st cutting	83	71	86
Alfalfa, 2nd cutting	18	5	25
Timothy clover, 1st cutting	64	41	64

PA Crop Condition for Week Ending June 27, 2004

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Corn	1	3	17	33	46
Wheat	2	18	37	35	8
Oats	7	10	27	48	8
Soybeans	0	4	16	63	17
Alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures stand	3	7	21	51	18
Timothy clover stand	1	5	30	54	10
Quality of hay made	17	12	32	29	10
Pasture	1	4	21	54	20
Peaches	0	1	8	70	21
Apples	0	9	26	65	0

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